

REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the time taken by the Examiner to review Applicant's present application. Applicant has amended Claim 49, 51 and 52, cancelled Claim 50 and added Claim 61-64. Applicant submits that no new matter has been added by these amendments. Consequently, Claims 49 and 51-64 remain pending in this application. This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Official Action mailed September 18, 2006. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 49-52 and 56-59 stand rejected as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2003/0105770 ("Macleod"). Applicant has cancelled Claim 50, thus Applicant respectfully submits the rejection of this claim is moot. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of Claims 49, 51, 52 and 56-59.

Claim 49, as amended, recites generating a set of content types representing a set of data, wherein one or content types comprises a policy annotation, the policy annotation comprising management information including a workflow corresponding to the content type; saving the set of content types in a memory; generating a set of content type objects corresponding to the set of content types; generating a content instance object for each datum that fits a content type within the set of content types; associating the datum with the content instance object; and saving the content instance object in a memory.

Thus, embodiments of the present invention provide a method for placing data under the auspices of a content management system and managing the data using the content management system without having to change either the structure or location of the data.

More specifically, data in a content repository may be analyzed such that content types representative of the various types of data present in content repository may be generated. The content types may, in turn, be used to generate structured representations of the content types known as content type objects. Data in the data repository may then be analyzed such that the pieces of data in the content repository are associated with a content type. For each of these pieces of data, a content instance object can be generated from the content object type

corresponding to the content type with which the piece of data is associated. The piece of content can then be associated with its respective content instance object.

A content management system can then manage the data in the content repository through management and manipulation of the constant instance objects without having to change the structure or location of the data in the content repository.

Specifically, a policy annotation such as a workflow may be associated with each of the content types. Thus, any content instance object and datum associated with the content instance object may also be associated with the policy annotation. Thus, the datum can be managed according to the policy annotation associated with the content instance object with which it is associated.

MacLeod, in contrast, provides a directory schema with object classes that have flexible attributes, meaning that attributes of an object can be extended independent of modifications. To this end, MacLeod provides a flexible content class, wherein the flexible content class includes a flexible attribute (See, MacLeod FIG 4) Flexible content class includes the flexible attribute The flexible attribute content class can be assigned any number of values. (See MacLeod Paragraph [0054]) Thus the application of MacLeod can assign any type of information to attributes of objects instantiated from the same object class, and this ability is accomplished without needing to modify the directory schema to create new structural object classes or attributes. (See MacLeod Paragraph [0058], [0062]).

After reviewing the MacLeod reference Applicant cannot find where MacLeod discloses a set of content types representing a set of data, wherein one or content types comprises a policy annotation, the policy annotation comprising management information including a workflow corresponding to the content type as recited by Claim 49. As MacLeod does not disclose all the limitations of Claim 49, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 49 and its respective dependent Claims 51, 52 and 56-59.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 53-55 and 60 stand rejected as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 2003/0105770 ("MacLeod") in view of U.S. Publication No. 2004/0187100 ("Thiruvillamalai"). As Claims 53-55 and 60 depend from Claim 49, Applicant respectfully submits that the above argument presented with respect to Claim 49 apply equally well here, and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 53-55 and 60.

Newly Added Claim 61-64

Claims 61-64 have been added to distinctly point out and claim embodiments of the present invention, support for which can be found in the specification. Applicant submits that no new matter has been added. After reviewing the cited portions of the prior art Applicant cannot find where the cited portions of the prior art discloses at least:

With respect to Claim 61: saving the content instance object in a memory wherein at least one content instance object refers to a plurality of datum, the plurality of datum residing in at least two distinct data storages and managed in conjunction with one another using the content instance object; and sharing the datum between a plurality of sites using the content instance object.

With respect to Claim 62: associating each of the set of data with at least one of the content instance object, wherein at least one of the content instance objects is associated with two or more datum of the set of data, each of the datum residing in a distinct data storage; and managing the set of data using the content instance objects, wherein the two or more datum are managed as a single entity using the at least one content instance object.

With respect to Claim 63: associating each of the set of data with at least one of the content instance object, wherein for each of the content instance objects generated from the at least one of the content types with an associated policy the associated datum is managed according to the policy.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the full allowance of newly added Claims 61-64.


CONCLUSION

Applicant has now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. Other than as explicitly set forth above, this reply does not include an acquiescence to statements, assertions, assumptions, conclusions, or any combination thereof in the Office Action. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicant respectfully requests full allowance of Claims 49 and 51-64. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below for prompt action in the event any issues remain.

Applicant has enclosed a Request for Extension of Time for one (1) month, along with a check for fees for the extension, and the fees for the Request for Continued Examination. Applicant does not believe any further fees are required; however, the Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees due, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-3183 of Sprinkle IP Law Group.

Respectfully submitted,

Sprinkle IP Law Group
Attorneys for Applicant



Ari G. Akmal
Reg. No. 51,388

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1301 W. 25th Street, Suite 408
Austin, TX 78705
Tel. (512) 637-9220
Fax. (512) 371-9088